

Letter from Helen Keller to Alexander Graham Bell, September 3, 1896

Copied *Brewster, Mass., September 3, 1896. My dear Dr. Bell;*

Mr. Warner has forwarded your check for four hundred dollars to Teacher, and I am going to acknowledge it myself because I want to thank you for your great kindness to me .

I would like to write you a nice, long letter, and tell you all about our vacation by the seaside, and our plans for next year; but my heart is too full of sadness to dwell upon the happiness the summer has brought me, or upon the bright prospects which await me in Cambridge. My father is dead. He died last Saturday at my home in Tuscumbia, and I was not there. My own dear, loving father! Oh, dear friend, how shall I ever bear it! It seems as if a great, dark cloud had fallen upon my life that would always keep out the brightness of everything. How strange it is! I never knew how dearly I loved my father until I realized that I had lost him. I think we do not know the depth of love in our hearts until some dreadful sorrow reveals it to us, and then we realize a little what God's love must be like .

Please give my dear love to Mrs. Bell, and Elsie and Daisy. Teacher sends her love to you all .

Lovingly your friend, Helen .